		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
(b)	1108	800	3,500	6,000
	1109	1,600	3,000	6,000
	1110	2,400	6,150	6,000
	1111	4,000	10,850	6,000
	1112	5,600	12,000	6,000
	1113	56,000	12,500	6,000
	1114	6,400	11,650	6,000
	1115	6,400	12,850	9,000
	1116	5,600	14,150	9,000
	1117	5,600	11,150	9,000
(c)	1108	15	12	6
	1109	6	3	9
	1110	5	9	8
	1111	4	11	6
	1112	7	10	4
	1113	7	9	9
	1114	9	8	8
	1115	4	11	12
	1116	11	11	6
	1117	7	13	10

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I request the Hon'ble President to allow any other member to put the question since Mr. Salem is not here in his seat. It is a very important question. The Hon'ble Member for Education also is not here. We may be allowed Sir, to put this question tomorrow either through Mr. Salem or through any other member.

Mr. President: You can raise the matter before questions and answers tomorrow and it will be considered.

EXTENT OF FOREST AREA GIVEN ON PATTAM

34. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) what is the extent of forest area given on pattam to various individuals for cultivation purposes during the years 1116, 1117 and 1118;

(b) have the Government any objection for excluding these areas from the forest department and register these in the names of the persons who have cultivated these areas?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* (a) 1116 Nil. 1117 .. 4,122 acres approximately and 1118 .. 1,701 acres approximately (leased so far).

(b) The whole of these forest areas under lease cannot be excluded. However portions of these areas could be made available for exclusion and assignment consistent with the interests of Forest Conservancy.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Does the acreage shown include the areas leased during the food production drive recently?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* The areas allotted for hill paddy cultivation have not been included.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will you kindly give us an idea as to where these lands lie?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* These lands lie all over the different parts of the State. The figures for the current year are not complete.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to note that when compared to Travancore we have got 100 square miles of forests more than the proportionate area in Travancore.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I do not know the exact area there. I think that the proportion will be more or less the same.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I say it is 2,000 square miles.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I am sure it is more than 2,000 square miles. It is somewhere near 3,000, more than 2,500 in any case.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will the House be justified, Sir, in drawing the inference from the figures supplied that the decrease in the acreage leased out to tenants for cultivation from 4,122 acres in 1117 to 1701 in the current year is due to the fact that the areas leased in 1117 had been taken up by the hill paddy scheme in part.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I do not think that it is a correct interpretation. Areas leased to private parties last year might have been taken back for hill paddy cultivation. But there are so many other factors also, for instance dearth of labour.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I request the Government whether they will be pleased, Sir, to see that in the hill paddy drive to be carried on in 1119 no portion of this 1701 acres leased out to tenants this year will be taken back.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I can assure the Hon'ble Members that it will not be taken back. As a matter of fact even areas that were included in the hill paddy scheme were subsequently thrown out for leasing.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Has the Government any intention to lease out the area in Malakkipara and other places to be opened up by the Anamallais—Chalakkudi road.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* There is a scheme the details of which have not been worked out. Unless the road itself is completed it will be very difficult to get there.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* What is the position of the Government with regard to the areas already opened by the Nelliampathi road?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* The lands are there ready for leasing and the question of leasing will depend upon the terms offered by the prospective lessees.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* If a bonafide Cochinite applies for land, may I take it that it will be granted?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* Certainly.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I draw the attention of the Government to an application of mine?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* It is under the consideration of Government. But no orders have been passed.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* May I take it that it will be sympathetically considered?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* Every application will be sympathetically considered.

ACREAGE, ETC., OF RUBBER PLANTATION OF THE STATE

35. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) what is the acreage of rubber plantations in the State;

(*b*) who are the individuals or which are the Companies owning the various plantations;

(*c*) what is the extent of land in the State fit for rubber plantation but not planted?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* (*a*) 11,696·85 acres.

(*b*) A list containing the information is placed on the Council Table.

(*c*) It is not possible to estimate the total extent.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Is it not a fact that there is no land available in the Cochin State fit for rubber cultivation?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I cannot subscribe to that proposition. There are large areas outside forests areas fit for rubber plantation.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* What is the area under rubber plantation? Is it not a lakh and fifty thousand acres?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I want notice.

Mr. President: I have to bring one matter to the notice of the hon'ble members. You want to increase the area under rubber plantations. But in that connection what we have to remember is this. Rubber newly planted would not be of any use for the purposes of the present war. But all possible lands on account of the present situation should be set apart for the cultivation of food and not for rubber.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* The lands which I speak of is about 20 or 30 miles away from human habitation.

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* These lands will be unfit for rubber plantation.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to give favourable terms to the Cochinites to see that more of Cochinites take to rubber plantations because the statement placed on the table tells a revealing tale. Now in today's agenda under Revenue administration there is a cut motion to this effect by the Hon'ble Member for Narakkal. "To urge upon the Government to encourage planting by Cochinites by giving favourable terms".

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly